man without honour, you disbelieve in God, you have betrayed everyone, to you nothing is sacred, you would sell your own father! You suppose, without rhyme or reason, that my Spanish affairs are going wrong. You deserve that I should smash you like a glass, but I despise you too profoundly to put myself to that trouble!

(Talleyrand: What a pity that so great a man should be so ill-bred!)

29th. (To Metternich.) Well! this is something new at Vienna! What does it mean ? Has a spider stung you ? Who is threatening you ? Whom are you aiming at ? Do you want to set the world aflame again ?

Metternich has almost become a statesman, he lies very well.

(Austria) wants to get slapped; she shall have it, on both cheeks. If the Emperor Francis attempts any hostile move, he will soon have ceased to reign. That is clear. Before another ten years mine will be the most ancient dynasty of Europe.

February llth. My memory will not store a single alexandrine verse; but I do not forget one syllable of the regimental returns. I always know where my troops are. I am fond of tragedy; but were all the dramas of the world there, on one side of me, and the regimental returns on the other, I would not so much as glance at the dramas, while every line of my regimental returns would be read with the closest attention.

March 9th. I am leaving my best troops with Joseph, and am starting alone for Vienna with my little conscripts, my name, and my long boots.